Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, WA, UN
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: UK VIEWS
REF: PARIS 1384; STATE 7289

- 1. UK COUNSELOR SAMUEL CALLED ON IO DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BLAKE JANUARY 27 TO SHARE LATEST UK REPORT FROM CAPETOWN. ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT, SOUTH AFRICA PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH RHODESIA, BUT UK EMBASSY BELIEVES NEVERTHELESS, THAT "SOMETHING SHOULD BE DONE" BEFORE MAY SECURITY COUNCIL REVIEW OF NAMIBIA. UK AMBASSADOR HAS ALREADY MADE SEVERAL BILATERAL APPROACHES.
- 2. SAMUEL REPORTED THAT FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAGHAN MET WITH VORSTER AND ADVOCATED VIEWING NAMIBIA AS UNITARY ENTITY, ALTHOUGH UK 'WOULD ACCEPT A FREELY EXPRESSED CHOICE' FOR ANOTHER SOLUTION. BLAKE ASSURED SAMUEL THAT US FEELING WAS THAT UNITY MUST BE ONE OF THE OPTIONS BUT THERE MIGHT ALSO BE CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES. CONFIDENTIAL

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3. SAMUEL EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT INFORMAL US POSITION OF ASSURING AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS THAT WE WERE PRESSING SOUTH AFRICA MIGHT ONLY DILUTE US, UK, AND FRENCH EFFORTS WITH SOUTH AFRICA AS A SEEMING PR EFFORT FOR UN FOLLOW-UP PURPOSES. SAMUEL SAID HE HAD UNDERSTOOD US WANTED TO CHECK THESE PRINCIPLES WITH CERTAIN AFRICANS BEFORE US, UK, AND FRENCH CONSIDERED THEM, IN ORDER IN PART TO SHOW AFRICANS USG PUTTING PRESSURES ON SAG. LONDON FELT THIS

WOULD BE MISTAKE. BLAKE AGREED, SAYING FOREGOING NEVER US INTENT, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT BEST THAT AFRICANS NOT BE CONFRONTED WITH DIRECT KNOWLEDGE OF INFORMAL AND CONFIDENTIAL US-UK-FRANCE CONVERSATIONS. WE WILL WANT TO KNOW WHAT PRINCIPAL AFRICAN NEIGHBORS OF NAMIBIA ARE THINKING ABOUT SUBJECT, BUT THIS SHOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH REGULAR DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS AND NOT IN CONTEXT OUR TALKS. ALSO IT BETTER THAT AFRICANS LEARN OF ANY DEMARCHES TO SAG LESS DIRECTLY. WE SHOULD ASK AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS WHAT THEY THINK SHOULD BE DONE, RATHER THAN TO EMPHASIZE OUR PLANS. IT WAS AGREED THAT USUAL 'SEEPAGE' WOULD INDICATE TO OTHER AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS THAT WE WERE IN CONTACT WITH SOUTH AFRICA.

4. BLAKE AGREED WITH SAMUEL'S SUGGESTION THAT US/UK/FRANCE SHOULD DEVELOP GENERAL AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLES, BUT NOT NECESSARILY GO SO FAR AS A DRAFTING SESSION ON PROCEDURES. KISSINGER

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POSITION

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